

34 SENATORS ASK NEW PUSH BY U.S. TO LIMIT A-TESTS

Similar Offers Before Were
Perfunctory, Dodd Says
in Sponsoring Plan

HUMPHREY JOINS MOVE

Explosions Under Water and
in Air Would Be Banned
by Resolution's Terms

By JOHN W. FINNEY

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 27

A move developed in the Senate today to break the stalemate on a nuclear test-ban treaty by offering the Soviet Union a first-step agreement banning all atmospheric and underwater tests.

The move was led by two active advocates of progress on the test-ban issue—Senator Thomas J. Dodd, Democrat of Connecticut, and Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, Democrat of Minnesota.

Senator Dodd introduced a resolution calling upon the Administration to offer the Soviet Union an agreement banning all tests that contaminate the atmosphere or the oceans.

Proposals Offered Previously

The idea of a partial test ban covering only readily detectable atmospheric tests is not new. It was formally proposed by the Eisenhower Administration in April, 1959, and again by the Kennedy Administration in August, 1962.

Senator Dodd asserted that on both those occasions the proposal was "submitted to the Soviet Union in a half-hearted and perfunctory manner, and when the Soviet Union said 'no' the proposals were immediately dropped."

The resolution represents the first attempt to place the Senate formally on record as favoring a limited test ban. If passed it would give new backing to the Administration's proposal, which is still pending in the Geneva negotiations.

Should the Soviet Union reject such an agreement, the resolution urges, the United States would refrain from conducting tests in the atmosphere or under water as long as the Soviet Union abstains from such tests.

The Dodd resolution was co-sponsored by Senator Humphrey and 28 other Senators—22 Democrats and six Republicans.

In a speech accompanying submission of the resolution, Senator Dodd said such a partial test ban would be "a tremendously significant beginning" toward a cessation of all tests, including those underground or in space.

"It would substantially reduce the amount of testing conducted by both sides," the Connecticut Democrat said. "It would eliminate the testing of multi-megaton weapons. It would take account of the legitimate, if somewhat exaggerated, concern of world public opinion over the danger of cumulative atmospheric fallout. Moreover, once such an agreement was reached, it could be extended, in stages, to other areas as improved methods of monitoring and detection became available, thus justifying an extension in the scope of the agreement."

Senator Humphrey, who in the past has differed sharply with Senator Dodd over the adequacy of the Administration's proposals for a comprehensive test ban, described the resolution as "a major attempt to stuff the genie of radioactive contamination and proliferation back into the bottle where it belongs."

Fits Into White House Aim

The resolution, while not open by endorsement by the Administration, fits into the developing White House strategy of applying pressure on the Soviet Union in a final attempt to reach

some agreement limiting atomic tests. The negotiations have now been dragging on for nearly five years, and President Kennedy indicated at his news conference last week that the talks would probably be terminated if no agreement were reached by this summer.

Under the resolution, both sides would be free to continue underground testing. In fact, Senator Dodd suggested that an "energetic" underground test program by the United States would have the effect of "exercising pressure on the Russians to accept a system of reasonable safeguards as the essential price of including underground tests in a test ban treaty."

Degree of Risk Conceded

Senator Dodd warned that even a limited test ban would involve "a degree of risk," since there was "at least a serious possibility that certain types of atmospheric tests could not be effectively monitored from positions outside the Soviet Union." The resolution, however, pointed out that most atmospheric and underwater tests could be "monitored by the United States without on-site inspection on Soviet territory."

The resolution calls upon the Administration, in case the United States does stop atmospheric tests, to "maintain our testing facilities in a state of constant readiness so that the United States will never be caught by surprise" by a sudden Soviet resumption of testing.

Senators Dodd and Humphrey agreed that a treaty banning all tests would be preferable, although Senator Dodd expressed doubt that a comprehensive treaty, under the terms now proposed by the Admini-

stration, would be ratified by the Senate.